



**Executive Board of the
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UNFPA – Country programmes and related matters

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

Extensions of country programmes in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region

Note by the Executive Director

Summary

The present note contains information on the one-year extension of the country programme for the Republic of Moldova.

In accordance with established procedures, the Executive Director approves the first one-year extension of a country programme, while requests for extensions for a second year or requests for two-year extensions are submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the one-year country programme extension for the Republic of Moldova, as indicated in the attached table.



Table 1. One-year country programme extensions approved by the Executive Director

Country	Original Programme period	Years proposed for extension	Explanation		
			United Nations Harmonization	In-country political development	Implementation and/or other issues
Republic of Moldova	2007–2011	2012	The current United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) cycle for the Republic of Moldova covers 2007–2011. This is the same cycle for the country programmes of the Executive Committee agencies of the United Nations Development Group. In light of the developments that took place during 2009, both within the United Nations and in the country as a whole, it was agreed by the Government and the United Nations to extend the current UNDAF for an additional year, through 2012. The extension of the UNDAF will permit the United Nations system to better assist the country in addressing the impact of the economic crisis and its social consequences. Given the current negotiation of a new agreement with the European Union, it will be important for the UNDAF to be aligned not only with the national cycle (through the national development strategy, 2008–2012) but with this new agreement as well.	In 2009, the Republic of Moldova experienced challenges that brought to the surface major problems in all areas of relevance to United Nations developments cooperation. The consequences of the global economic crisis were aggravated by the prolonged process of parliamentary elections, when no constitutional power could be fully established after two consecutive rounds of voting in April and July 2009. As a result of political and parliamentary crises and uncertainty, the Government changed hands, with limited continuity. Two election cycles in 2009 resulted in a prolonged period of limited activities undertaken by the Government. This in turn delayed the implementation of several United Nations programmes in the country.	During 2012, UNFPA will continue to implement the country programme, undertaking activities in the following three programme areas: (a) reproductive health and rights, with a focus on HIV/AIDS prevention and care, improving men's health and women's health, and promoting safer and healthier sexual and reproductive health behaviour among youth; (b) population and development, including support for the development of the national strategy for demographic security, population research, and implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing; and (c) gender equality and equity, with attention given to victims of domestic violence. No structural changes to the country programme are required. The current country programme provides an adequate framework to implement UNFPA projects, given its alignment with government development priorities and the UNDAF.



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UNFPA – Country programmes and related matters

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

Extensions of country programmes in the Latin America and the Caribbean region

Note by the Executive Director

Summary

The present note contains information on the one-year extension of the UNFPA country programme for Haiti, and the two-year extension of the country programme for Paraguay.

In accordance with established procedures, the Executive Director approves the first one-year extension of a country programme, while requests for extensions for a second year or requests for two-year extensions are submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

The Executive Board may wish to: (a) take note of the one-year country programme extension for Haiti, as indicated in table 1; and (b) approve the two-year extension of the country programme for Paraguay, as indicated in table 2.



Table 1. One-year country programme extensions approved by the Executive Director

Country	Original Programme period	Years proposed for extension	Explanation		Implementation and/or other issues
			United Nations Harmonization	In-country political development	
Haiti	2009-2011	2012	The Integrated Mission Task Force approved an integrated strategic framework for Haiti on 17 January 2011. The time frame of the integrated strategic framework coincides with the remaining phase of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), 2009-2011. On 16 November 2010, the United Nations Development Group regional team for Latin America and the Caribbean approved the extension of the integrated strategic framework until 2012. UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF are therefore extending their country programmes for one year, in order to align them with the integrated strategic framework.	The earthquake that devastated Haiti on 12 January 2010, claiming the lives of more than 220,000 people, necessitated the revision of development plans. The period covered by the integrated strategic framework corresponds with the time frame defined by the Government with regard to the action plan for national recovery and development. The integrated strategic framework also corresponds to the period identified by the United Nations Secretary-General as a time of high risk for peace consolidation in Haiti, in which political, security, protection and recovery objectives must be pursued simultaneously to preserve the political legitimacy of the Government and contribute to an enabling environment for recovery and development.	The recommendations of the country programme evaluation that is being conducted will be used to ensure alignment of the country programme action plan to the current national context and the changing priorities in the country.

Table 2. Extensions of UNFPA country programmes for which the approval of the Executive Board is sought

Country	Original programme period	Years proposed for extension	Explanation		
			United Nations harmonization	In-country political development	Implementation and/or other issues
Paraguay	2007-2011	2012-2013	The Government has requested the extension of the current programming cycle instruments – the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and the country programmes of the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes in the country – in order to ensure their alignment with government planning processes during the forthcoming cycle (2008-2013).	The current Government came to power in 2008; its mandate ends in 2013. The Government has undertaken major changes in the administration and has given high priority to social issues. It has formulated and adopted new sector development strategies covering the entire period of its mandate. To demonstrate the commitment of the United Nations to aid effectiveness and to ensure more opportunities for strategic engagement with the Government and other national partners, the United Nations country team considers the alignment with the government planning cycle to be of critical importance.	The current UNFPA country programme remains valid as a framework for the continuation of UNFPA activities in Paraguay. The new national development plan, which is currently under discussion, and other sectoral plans already approved and being implemented, such as the national sexual and reproductive health strategic plan, the adolescent and youth health plan, the national gender equality opportunity plan and others will continue to guide the UNFPA programme. In addition, UNFPA will maintain its support for the national population and housing census planned for 2012.